

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAMA 00581 201550Z

67

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03

LAB-04 SIL-01 PASS-00 PA-01 PRS-01 L-02 /088 W

----- 106795

R 201346Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 2125

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN SOUTH AFRICA

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMCONSUL DURBAN SOUTH AFRICA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG SOUTH AFRICA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA SOUTH AFRICA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA0581

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : ETRD, SF

SUBJECT : BAHRAIN BANS TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. GOB OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF MAY 1975 CARRIES ANNOUNCEMENT
PROHIBITING TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA. ANNOUNCEMENT NOTES
THAT: (A) EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE
PREVENTED EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1976; (B) CUSTOMS AND PORTS
DIRECTORATE WILL NOT ALLOW IMPORT OR TRANSIT OF GOODS
ORIGINATING IN SOUTH AFRICA EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 1975;
(C) BANKS OPERATING IN BAHRAIN SHOULD NOT OPEN NEW CREDITS

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FOR IMPORT OR TRANSIT OF SOUTH AFRICAN GOODS, AND

(D) NO SOUTH AFRICAN FLAG VESSEL WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER
BAHRAIN WATERS AND PORTS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1976.
END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2. FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER THAT
DECISION WAS STRICTLY POLITICAL AND MADE TO KEEP UP WITH
OTHER STATES IN AREA. OFFICIAL NOTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER
SHAIKH MOHAMMED BIN MUBARAK, WHO HAS CRITICIZED APARTHEID
POLICY AT UNITED NATIONS, HAD BEEN TAKEN TO TASK BY SOME
AFRICAN DELEGATIONS FOR BAHRAIN'S GROWING TRADE WITH SOUTH
AFRICA. NOTE: BAHRAIN IMPORTED \$1.7 MILLION WORTH OF SOUTH
AFRICAN GOODS IN 1973 AND ALMOST \$2.5 MILLION IN 1974;
EXPORT NEGLIGIBLE.

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05 JUL 2006

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